

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13, 15-16 and 18 are now pending. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 14 and to specify that the lead extends along the diameter reducing part.

Claims 9 and 15 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 (c) as being of improper dependent form. Claims 9 and 15 have been amended above to refer more particularly to the configuration of the molding die. As such it is respectfully submitted that the apparatus of claims 2 and 1 from which claims 9 and 15 respectively depend have been further limited by the subject matter of claims 9 and 15. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 9 and 15 is requested.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kolossow together with Muruta. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Kolossow discloses an extruder for plastics. The extruding apparatus of Kolossow is characterized as including a mixing and cooling zone V, which the Examiner has equated to the claimed pressure screw part, a mixing and cooling zone VII, which the Examiner has characterized as corresponding to the spreading part added in applicant's dependent claim 2, and discharge zone VIII which the Examiner has characterized as corresponding to the claimed diffusion screw part. In this regard the Examiner has noted, furthermore, that the discharge zone has a diameter larger than that of mixing and cooling zone V and that at the tip end of the discharge zone, the diameter of the screw shaft decreases toward the end (as previously recited in claim 14). While, as such, Kolossow taken alone or in combination with Murata may be alleged to bear certain superficial similarities to the claimed invention, it is respectfully

submitted that the present invention, particularly as now more clearly defined in amended claim 1 is not anticipated by nor obvious from the applied art. In this regard, the diffusion screw part provided in accordance with an example embodiment of the invention has a diameter reducing part at a downstream end thereof. Furthermore, the second lead extends along the diameter reducing part. References made in this regard to applicant's Figure 1, depicting the lead extending along the diffusion screw part 24 including along the diameter reducing part at its downstream or distal end.

In contrast to the invention now more clearly recited in claim 1, the distal end of the reduced-diameter portion of the screw shaft in the discharge zone VII does not include any lead defined thereon. The lead is provided solely along the large diameter portion of the shaft in the discharge zone. It is respectfully submitted that the aforementioned difference between the Kolossow reference and the claimed invention significantly relates to the different functions of the two apparatus.

According to the present invention, rammed earth is extended in a transverse direction and is supplied to the whole of the cross-sectional area by means of the diffusion screw part, so that a large-diameter workpiece can be obtained, and hence it is required that the lead be formed on the above-identified diameter reducing part and rammed earth should be carried to the center of the axis.

On the other hand, according to Kolossow, a mixed resin is moved to a large-diameter screw part in order to increase surface area to enhance cooling capacity, and the large-diameter screw part is provided for carrying the resin to the next process. Therefore, in order to carry the resin to the next process smoothly, the reduced-diameter portion should be truncated and a very simple constitution. Therefore, the reduced-diameter portion should be a low-height conical shape as Kolossow teaches.

Therefore, the function of the reduced-diameter portion according to the present invention is significantly different from that of Kolossow, so that the constitution of the

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Appl. No. 10/669,599
November 17, 2005

reduced-diameter portion according to the present invention is significantly different from that of the Kolossow.

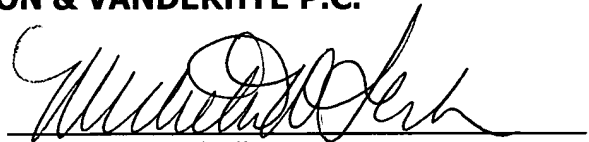
As is clear from the foregoing, the invention of claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom is different from Kolossow whether taken alone or in combination with Murata. Furthermore, because of the different material processed respectively by Kolossow and the invention, it would not have been obvious to the skilled artisan, in the absence of applicant's disclosure, to modify Kolossow so as to provide the invention claimed. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the prior art rejection is solicited.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle N. Lester", written over a horizontal line.

Michelle N. Lester
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100